



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re U.S. Patent Application of

WAKABAYASHI *et al.*

Application Number: 10/038,717

Filed: January 8, 2002

For: A METHOD OF ANALYSIS OF DNA SEQUENCE

Attorney Docket No. NITT.0052

Unit 1634

Examiner

Chakrabarti, Arun K.

**Honorable Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231**

RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated March 18, 2003, the period for response to which is set to expire on June 18, 2003. Please amend portions the above identified application with the replacement paragraphs/sections/claims as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 5 without prejudice or disclaimer, and substitute claims 1-4 and 6-14 with the following amended claims:

1. A method of analysis of DNA sequence, comprising the steps of:
 - degrading, by pyrophosphates, pyrophosphoric acid contained in a reagent used for extension reaction of a DNA primer hybridized to a target nucleic acid through a complementary binding, and/or degrading, by apyrase, adenosine 5'-triphosphate contained in the reagent;
 - removing or inactivating the pyrophosphates and/or the apyrase in the reagent after the degrading step;
 - conducting the extension reaction; and
 - detecting pyrophosphoric acid generated by the extension reaction after the